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I hereby certify that this correspondence for Application No. 10/627,589 is being electronically transmitted to Technology Center 3738, via EFS-WEB, on June 5, 2006.

/David H. Brinkman/ 6/5/06
David H. Brinkman, Reg. No. 40,532 Date

PATENT

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JRW
8-1-06*

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Stephen D. Kuslich et al.
Serial Number: 10/627,589
Filed: July 25, 2003
Group Art Unit: 3738
Confirmation No.: 2967
Examiner: Willse, David H.
Title: **LAPAROSCOPIC SPINAL STABILIZATION SURGICAL METHOD**
Attorney Ref.: ZMS-IF15US6

Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

June 5, 2006

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

AFTER FINAL AMENDMENT

In response to the Office Action mailed on April 5, 2006, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.